

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3248
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2003
AFRO-ASIAN GAMES
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the decision of the Union Government against India's participation in SAF Games to be held in Pakistan in March, 03 would have an adverse effect on the Afro-Asian Games to be held in India later this year;
- (b) if so, whether Members of Parliament have appealed to the Government to allow the Indian contingent's participation in the SAF Games; and (
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIKRAM VERMA)

(a) At present, it is not perceived that non-participation of India in the SAF Games might affect the Afro-Asian Games, inter alia, since Afro-Asian Games are Inter-continental games wherein four teams from either continent (Asia and Africa) would participate.

(b) & (c) : Keeping in view the security perception, Government had advised the Indian Olympic Association that Indian Contingent should not participate in the SAF Games. However, one Hon. Member of Parliament had appealed to the Government to reconsider its view. The Hon. Member of the Parliament has been informed that there has been no perceptible change in the scenario, meriting reconsideration of earlier position in the matter. Besides, this matter has also been raised during the Zero Hours of Parliament, recently.